

deeply that they cannot function anyway. If you say you are only going to remove the left lung and the left ventricle, then you, in effect, have killed the program, but you don't want to say that and you don't want to do that. If you restore the \$300,000 to the UN-O program and the \$300,000 to the state colleges, that would be a total of six hundred and something thousand dollars, \$666,000. That is not that much. It is not going to bust the budget. And if you can shift into another gear now, this is going to pertain to your children at your schools now. We are not talking about the reservation. We are not talking about those who are in this country illegally but are used at Ak-sar-ben or at some of these factories or in the sugar cane fields or wherever, sugar beet fields, wherever else the farmers work them. We are not talking about those people now. We are talking about the Americans, the John Wayne variety Americans, the ones who salute the flag, and all of those things. I can't have developed in my mind a clear rationale for cutting these programs. So in order to get some assistance, I would like to ask Senator Hannibal, since I have talked about it with him, besides the fact that people might view athletics as not academic in its essence, and I know all of that, why did they decide they should cut these programs by this amount when these programs are struggling anyway? I asked Senator Hannibal. I know it is difficult to follow, but...okay. I am not arguing that athletics are academic in nature. I stated I feel though they still have an important part to play in the overall educating process. So my question is this. With these intercollegiate athletic programs at UN-O and the state colleges, because they are not large revenue generators, struggling anyway, why would the committee see fit to cut them so deeply? I am asking for the rationale.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Well, I think you answered your question early on because you said, other than athletics, and we looked at the university budgets in the scope of the entire budget looking for places to save money, to try to take our budget to the most essential things that we as a committee thought were proper purposes of state government. We looked at the University and we decided that intercollegiate athletics would be among those as called "least essential", not that they weren't worthy, but least essential and that if the university system, whether it be state colleges or the UN-O campus or UN-L, felt that they should be funded they should do it other than with cash funds from the